

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PORT M 01102 120936Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 SSC-01 EB-08 /065 W  
-----116061 130519Z /14

R 120040Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2508  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY SUVA  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
CINCPAC HONOLULU/POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT MORESBY 1102

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT PP  
SUBJ: SOMARE MINISTRY

REF: PORT MORESBY 1078

SUMMARY: NEW PANGU/PPP COALITION MINISTRY IS REGIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE AND A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY OVER LAST CABINET. POST DOES NOT BELIEVE ITS COMPOSITION INDICATES A MARKED CHANGE IN PNG FOREIGN POLICY OR ATTITUDE TOWARDS FOREIGN INVESTMENT. HOWEVER, SOME OBSERVERS SEE REASON FOR APPREHENSION RE FOREIGN MINISTER'S ATTITUDES TOWARDS TORRES STRAIT AND IRIAN JAYA BORDER ISSUES.  
END SUMMARY.

1. SOMARE HAS ANNOUNCED NEW MINISTRY ON TERMS AGREED UPON RE FORMATION OF PPP/PANGU COALITION SHORTLY AFTER ELECTION OF 9  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PORT M 01102 120936Z

PANGU, 3 PRO-SOMARE INDEPENDENTS, AND 6 PPP MINISTERS. EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL REPRESENTATION WAS OFTEN AT EXPENSE OF TALENT. ONLY PROVINCES NOT REPRESENTED ARE WESTERN HIGHLANDS, WEST SEPIK AND MANUS. THOUGH NEW CABINET IS GENRAL IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE OF MEMBERS, SOME OF MOST TALENTED GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS REMAIN OUTSIDE OF MINISTRY.

2. THIS WILL BE SOMEWHAT RECTIFIED BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF UP TO 9 PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES, WHO WILL ASSIST MINISTERS AND RECEIVE MINISTERIAL PERKS SUCH AS CARS AND HOUSES, BUT WILL NOT VOTE IN CABINET. SOME TALENTED PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES ASSISTING WEAKER MINISTERS CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE SUBSTANTIAL INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENT POLICY.

3. MINISTRY, LISTED IN GENERAL ORDER OF THE MINISTER'S INFLUENCE IN CABINET, IS AS FOLLOWS:

MINISTRY	MINISTER
----------	----------

PRIME MINISTER	MICHAEL SOMARE, PANGU LEADER
----------------	------------------------------

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND PRIMARY INDUSTRY	JULIUS CHAN, PPP LEADER
---	-------------------------

DECENTRALIZATION	JOHN MOMIS, INDEPENDENT
------------------	-------------------------

FINANCE	BARRY HOLLOWAY, PANGU
---------	-----------------------

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE	EBIA OLWALE, PANGU DEPUTY LEADER
---------------------------	----------------------------------

LABOUR AND INDUSTRY	JACOB, LEMEKI, PPP DEPUTY LEADER
---------------------	----------------------------------

TRANSPORT, WORKS, SUPPLY  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PORT M 01102 120936Z

AND CIVIL AVIATION	BRUCE JEPHCOTT, PPP
--------------------	---------------------

NATURAL RESOURCES	BOYAMO SALI, PANGU
-------------------	--------------------

POLICE AND CORRECTIVE INSTITUTIONS	PATTERSON LOWA, PANGU
---------------------------------------	-----------------------

EDUCATION, SICENCE AND CULTURE	OSCAR TAMMUR, MATAUNGAN
-----------------------------------	-------------------------

DEFENCE	LOUIS MONA, PPP
---------	-----------------

HEALTH	WIWA KOROWI, PPP
--------	------------------

PUBLIC UTILITIES	BABRIEL BAKANI, PPP
------------------	---------------------

MEDIA	TOM KORAEA, PANGU
-------	-------------------

COMMERCE	PITA LUS, PANGU
----------	-----------------

ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION  
AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS STEPHEN TAGO, PANGU

JUSTICE DELBA BIRI, PANGU

YOUTH, RECREATION, SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN'S AFFAIRS PATO KAKARYA, INDEPENDENT

4. MINISTERIAL CHANGES OF PARTICULAR NOTE ARE:

JULIUS CHAN WHO HAS LONG BEEN INTERESTED IN PRIMARY INDUSTRY POST, BOTH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY BACKGROUND IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND AS RELIEF FROM DAILY PRESSURES OF FINANCE MINISTRY. CHAN IS EXPECTED TO BECOME VERY ACTIVE AND VISIBLY SO IN RURAL AGRICULTURE AND WILL TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES AFFORDED BY THIS EXPOSURE. CHAN MAY RUN INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 PORT M 01102 120936Z

DIFFICULTY, HOWEVER, AS HIS WILL BE TASK OF EXPLAINING FALL IN WORLD COFFEE PRICE TO UNSOPHISTICATED HIGHLANDS FARMERS.

JOHN MOMIS WILL BE STRONG FORCE WITHIN CABINET AND, AS HE HAS DONE BEFORE, MAY USE THREAT OF HIS RESIGNATION TO ADVANCE STRONGLY HELD VIEWS. MOMIS WILL TRY TO EXTEND DECENTRALIZATION MINISTRY BEYOND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS DEPT, WANTING A MAJOR VOICE IN DECENTRALIZATION OF GOVERNMENTAL POWERS AND TRANSFERS OF STAFF TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

EBIA OLEWALE AS FOREIGN MINISTER FROM WESTERN PROVINCE MAY CAUSE SOME CONCERN AMONG AUSTRALIANS OVER TORRES STRAIT ISSUE AND INDONESIA'S OVER IRIAN JAYA REFUGEE AND BORDER ISSUES. HOWEVER, OLEWALE IS ALSO LESS LIKELY THAN KIKI TO TAKE INDEPENDENT ACTION ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUES AND WILL BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO MODERATING ADVICE OF SOMARE AND CABINET.

5. TEI ABAL HAS BEEN ELECTED PARLIAMENTARY LEADER OF UNITED PARTY AND HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.  
OLMSTED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PORTM01102  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770292-0358  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PORT MORESBY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770867/aaaacemr.tel  
**Line Count:** 157  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7a49755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 PORT MORESBY 1078  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1617089  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOMARE MINISTRY  
**TAGS:** PINT, PP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7a49755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009